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pick their mates from the Eagle moiety and *vice versa.* Transgressing this rule, either in or out of marriage, is the worse crime of Lesu society. Between the moieties there is a set of reciprocal duties, including an exchange of food at pregnancy, birth, circumcision, first menstruation, marriage, and death rites. As the members of a moiety are scattered through households, hamlets, and villages, they generally function as a unit only at these rites. The clan, on the other hand, functions frequently as an economic unit, the members assisting each other in all their important undertakings. Since it is the important old men of the clan who are the real governing force, the clan largely conditions the political structure. These men are called *orang*, which may be translated as old men of influence, rather than chief. It is they who are an informal council, meeting in the men's house and discussing and deciding any questions of importance. Young and middle-aged men listen to them with respectful attention. The position of *orang* in the clan is not inherited. At the death of one, it may fall on his brother, but there is no rule for the choice. The oldest and most influential man of the clan, regardless of his exact relationship to the dead man, will be regarded as an *orang*. His influence is based on his age, strength of his personality, and his wealth. Oratorical ability and magical knowledge also increase his prestige. The *orang* is not formally chosen by an election. In these small and primitive communities everyone knows who is the most influential man, and he maintains his position by mutual consent.

In the past, each village had a warrior chief, also called *orang*, who was distinct from the clan *orang*. He had to know war magic and was always a rich man. The position was inherited, but not in a very exact line. His brother, his brother's son, his sister's son, and his own son have all at various times inherited a dead warrior chief's position. The ability of the man and the personal preference of the old

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incumbent of the post, seem to have been important factors in the choice. However, to-day warfare has been abolished by the white Government, the warrior chief no longer exists, and it is therefore difficult to get exact information on his role. But some idea of the type of warfare, which appears to have been on a rather small scale, may be gathered from a tale of fighting between Lesu and Tagam, the two former villages now making up Lesu. The people of Lesu were considered the best fighters of the two, and the Tagam people were much afraid of them. Because of their fear, Tagam members ran away to the village of Fakmalak, and while they were gone the Lesu people stole taro from the Tagam gardens and their pigs. This went on for some time, until the Lesu people notified the Tagam people, hiding at Fakmalak, that they were ready to make peace. Accordingly the Tagam people returned and there was an exchange of *tsera* (currency) between the two. (This is the first rite in peace-making.)

The day after their return the Tagam people went to their gardens in the bush, but their chief, Seiut, stayed at home in order to make a *kepkep* (breast ornament). The Lesu people, who were not honest in their talk about peace, now sent two men to kill Seiut. They came to his house and said that they would like to watch him work on the *kepkep*. He invited them in, and they killed him by cutting his head open and slashing his body. A few of the Tagam people, who remained at home, beat the *kolamuth* (hollowed tree-trunk used as a signalling drum), and the others returned from their gardens. When they found their chief dead, they were again afraid and wanted to run away back to Fakmalak. But Lemlum, the Lesu chief, said that now they had attained their object in killing Seiut, and that they were willing to have real peace. A big feast was made by the Lesu people, who gave uncooked taro and pig to the Tagam people. Another exchange of *tsera* also took place, followed by ritual

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578 dancing in which both villages and other neighbouring ones participated. A year later Tagam gave a return feast to Lesu. Seiut's younger brother, Sagari, became the new chief for Tagam.

624 To-day, in each village the white Government appoints a
648 man called "Luluai," who acts as an intermediary between
554 the natives and Government officials. In some villages the
888 "Luluai" is a man of outstanding personality, from the family of the former fighting chief, or an *orang* of his clan and a man of real influence in the village. In other villages the choice of a "Luluai" may not be so fortunate. But even when he is a man of influence and strong personality, it is still the important old men of the clan who are the real rulers of the community. The "Luluai," if he is only a middle-aged man, is guided by them on any matter of importance.

THE FAMILY

593 The smallest unit based on kinship is the family, which cuts directly across the moiety and clan, since the father, as has been previously stated, is always of a different clan and moiety from those of his wife and children. On some occasions, when the clan functions as a unit, this division is brought out very clearly, as at the wedding rites of a daughter, when the mother and her clan relatives are active and the father is in the background. But, as a whole, the
593 ties of sentiment which develop in family life are not severed.
428 For instance, although the rule for the inheritance of pro-
611 perty as well as status is that it comes through the female line, the former frequently comes down through the male line. Inheritance of property and of status are in quite different categories. The rule concerning status is inviolable. A child is always a member of his mother's clan and moiety. But a child may receive magical spells from his father as well as from his mother's brother or mother. Although a native informant will always tell you that the latter is the